

**Lieutenant Governor  
Joseph E. Kernan, Director**  
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
ONE NORTH CAPITOL, SUITE 700  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204  
TEL 317 232 8800  
[www.indianacommerce.com](http://www.indianacommerce.com)

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For More Information Contact: Joan Friedman, Indiana Dept. of Commerce, 317.232.8873  
Jeff Harris, Indiana Dept. of Commerce, 317.232.2464

### ***Kernan Announces Global Trade Expo 2002 in Fort Wayne***

INDIANAPOLIS —Lt. Governor Joe Kernan announced today that the city of Fort Wayne will host the international business community at the Global Trade Expo 2002 on Thursday, April 11 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.

The event, sponsored by the Indiana Department of Commerce and the city of Fort Wayne Office of International Trade, will allow manufacturers a chance to visit with service providers and attend seminars on trade-related topics. This is the first year for the expo.

"We are pleased to offer Indiana companies the opportunity to get a closer look at the workings of international trade," said Kernan, who leads the state's economic development efforts. "The expo is a prime time for companies to meet each other, network and become more informed about international sales opportunities."

The expo will kick off with a breakfast at 8 a.m. At noon, a luncheon will feature the release of Indiana export figures for 2001 and honor the Northeast Indiana Exporter of the Year. Larry Davidson, professor of Business Economics and Public Policy at the IU Kelley School of Business, has been invited to speak. Those planning to attend the breakfast and/or luncheon should RSVP by March 22. The cost is \$25 for breakfast and \$35 for lunch.

Exhibits will be open to the public free of charge throughout the day. Exhibitors will include freight forwarders, banks, international trade organizations, government agencies, export sales organizations, international accounting firms, consultants, insurance companies and language services. Seminars will be held throughout the day on various trade-related topics, such as global trade resources, forwarding services, sales and marketing, and finance.

Booth spaces are being offered to businesses and organizations that have relationships with the International Trade Division of the Indiana Department of Commerce. Booth space, which will include one breakfast, one lunch, one parking pass and additional badges, is \$250.

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For more information about Global Trade Expo 2002 or to register to attend, contact Karen Sanclemente, Indiana Department of Commerce, at 219.426.8801 (e-mail [ksanclemente@commerce.state.in.us](mailto:ksanclemente@commerce.state.in.us)) or Ola Schechter, city of Fort Wayne Office of International Trade, at 219.426.5568 (e-mail [oschechter@theallianceonline.com](mailto:oschechter@theallianceonline.com)).

The International Trade Division of the Indiana Department of Commerce works to bring Indiana companies and the international marketplace together through export readiness analysis, international market research, and agent distributor searches. For more information about the International Trade Division or its programs please call 317.232.4949, or visit Commerce's Web site at [www.indianacommerce.com](http://www.indianacommerce.com).

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